



the fifth wheel

NOVEMBER 2024

[HTTP://WWW.CORVAIR.ORG/CHAPTERS/LVCC](http://www.corvair.org/chapters/lvcc)

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Inside this issue

<i>LVCC Covered Bridge Tour Report</i>	2
<i>Splish-Splash Stream-Fording and Bison Sightings</i>	2
<i>Welcome Pete Pesaresi Our Newest Memeber</i>	2
<i>Nominations Are Open! by Allan Lacki</i>	2
<i>The Bridges of Lehigh County Photo Gallery</i>	3 & 5
<i>Corvair Fuel Tank Experience by Kenneth Cush</i>	4
<i>LVCC Treasury Report by Joan Lacki</i>	4
<i>Corvair Maintenance The Institutional Knowledge</i>	6
<i>Update: Pete Freiley's V8 by Group Corvair</i>	6
<i>Creek and Bison Photos by Joan Lacki</i>	7
<i>LVCC Classified Ads Buy & Sell</i>	9
<i>LVCC Calendar of Events Getting Ready for 2025</i>	9
<i>Next Meeting. We Meet Here! Saturday Nov.16 @ AOW</i>	10
<i>Officer Contact Information</i>	10



LVCC Covered Bridge Tour Report!

October 26, 2024 – Members and friends of the Lehigh Valley Corvair Club went on a Covered Bridge Road Tour! Six covered bridges in all.

Of the slightly more than 200 covered bridges still standing in Pennsylvania, seven examples are located in Lehigh County. We visited - and drove over - six of them.

Eleven Corvairs plus two non-Corvairs ran the tour, with twenty-four drivers & navigators. The weather was perfect, the Corvairs ran great, and we had good time.

Here is a list of everyone who participated!

Dave Buzzard with Aaron & Jamie Buzzard (Corvair)
Ryan Cengari driving solo (Toyota Supra)
Kenneth Cush and Jennifer Barry (Corvair)
William A. Dittrich and Mrs. Marge Dittrich (Corvair)
Greg Dittrich and William D. Dittrich (Corvair)
Rich Greene and Donna Greene (Corvair)
Andrew Hewins and Lauren Hewins (Corvair)
Walter Ingles and Allison Ingles (Corvair)
Allan Lacki and Joan Lacki (Corvair)
Bob Marlow and Sue Marlow (Honda Ridgeline)
Joe Maurella and Helen Maurella (Corvair)
Bob Weideman driving solo (Corvair)
John Wiley driving solo (Corvair)

Splish-Splash Fording & Bison

The LVCC Covered Bridge Road Tour officially ended at The New Schnecksville Diner in Schnecksville, PA well into the afternoon. But some of us could not get enough!

Bob Weideman offered to lead us on a drive through the Trexler Nature Preserve which is located right off the route of the covered bridge tour. Andrew & Lauren Hewins and Allan & Joan Lacki took Bob up on his offer.

Formerly known as the Trexler-Lehigh County Game Preserve, the property is an 1,108-acre public park that is a focal point for land conservation efforts within Lehigh County, as well to protect endangered bison and elk. It's the access path to the Lehigh Valley Zoo.

We followed Bob through the preserve. It included a ford (not a Ford car, but a ford through Jordan Creek) and wonderful views from the hilltops.

Luckily, the Jordan Creek was running low that day, so basically we just got our tires washed!

Big bonus - we saw a herd of bison standing behind a fence right next to the trail! (This place really is a "nature reserve")!

Check out the videos on our Facebook and Instagram pages.
LVCC's Instagram Page: [lehigh_valley_corvair_club](#)
LVCC's Facebook Group: <https://tinyurl.com/keyzjezy>

Welcome Pete Pesaresi!

We have another new member. Please welcome Pete Pesaresi of Elysburg, PA!

Pete has a 1964 Corvair Monza convertible, 110 / 4 speed. Blue with a black top. Pete is new to the Corvair hobby, having bought his Monza just this year. But he's had a yen for Corvairs ever since he visited the New York World's Fair in 1964 where he saw a Monza Spyder on display at the GM Pavilion.

Pete must have a thing for air-cooled engines, for he has owned and maintained a Cessna 182 for the past twenty years. He also built an "American Legend Cub" from a kit. To top it off, he is also FAA rated to fly helicopters.

Nomination Period Is OPEN!! By Allan Lacki

Hah! Maybe you thought all that election hoopla would have stopped by now. Not so fast! The time has come to nominate candidates for our own officers!

We are seeking candidates for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. So step right up and nominate the people of your choice! Or nominate yourself! No need to be bashful.

You do not need to nominate a full slate. In other words, you can nominate a person for just one of the positions or two or three or all four.

Submit your nominations to by email to Secretary Bob Marlow at rmarlow4040@gmail.com. As an alternative, you can mail 'em into the LVCC PO Box in Orefield. Or, if all else

(Continued on page 4)

The Covered Bridges of Lehigh County



Bill and Marge Dittrich in lineup at Perkins.



Bob Weideman went solo. Ann had to go to work.



Andrew and Lauren Hewins of Mount Laurel, NJ.



Bill and Marge Dittrich.



Greg and William D. Dittrich.



John Wiley from the Philadelphia club.

fails, submit them at our next meeting, Saturday November 16.

We'll have the election as the last item of business at the November meeting.

I would also like a volunteer to step up to be our Activities Coordinator. This is something our club sorely needs, so please consider helping out in that way.

At this time, I'd like to once again thank Ryan Cengari for setting us up on Instagram and Bob Marlow for creating and maintaining our Facebook page. We're getting a lot of good exposure out there on the internet. Let's keep the momentum going!

Corvair Fuel Tank Experience ***By Kenneth Cush***

I took out the gas tank over the weekend because it was leaking. Easy job on the 62!

Found out the tank was leaking because of rusted-through pin holes in the tank. You can see where gas has been running down the tank. The tank is also filled with rust.

I have a new gas tank, sending unit, and tank screen, and carb filters on order. Have new hoses from Clarks included in their fuel tank kit. I also have a new fuel filler metal tube because the old one looked in sad shape.

I think at one point before I got the car, rainwater was running into the tank from the gas cap area.

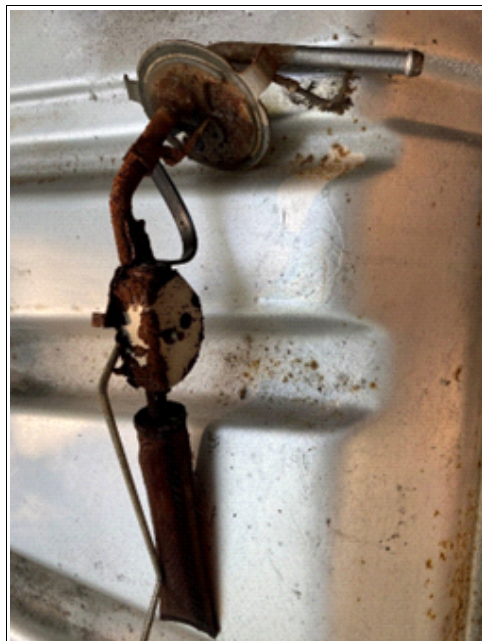


Gasoline stains are evident in this photo. (And that's Ken with his blue jeans leg, holding up the tank).

I also got a new battery this weekend because I didn't trust the old one. It wasn't holding a charge overnight.

Was thinking about an in-tank electric fuel pump. But first things first! Maybe this Spring I will put one in.

Should be good to go for the tour! (And it was! Ken joined the tour in his Corvair.)



And here's more evidence of what water in the fuel tank can do. Here's the rusty fuel sender Ken pulled out of his leaky tank.

LVCC Treasury Report by Joan Lacki

Beginning Balance: (Sept. 28, 2024)		\$	2,102.39
Receipts:			
Membership Dues	\$	55.00	
			\$ 55.00
Expenses:			
Newsletter	\$	(10.60)	Photocopies
AOW Museum	\$	(150.00)	Meeting Room
Covered Bridge Tour	\$	(69.96)	Photocopies
			\$ (230.56)
Ending Balance: (Oct. 31 2024)		\$	1,926.83
Membership Dues Breakout			
Nenow Jr., William	\$	20.00	1 year
Pesaresi, Pete	\$	35.00	2 years
	\$	55.00	

The Covered Bridges of Lehigh County



Walter and Allison Ingles. Ryan Cengari's Toyota.



Schlicher's Covered Bridge. The last on the tour.



Line up for caravan to New Schnecksville Diner.



More cars coming through Schlicher's Bridge.



Andrew and Lauren Hewins of Mount Laurel, NJ.



Al & Joan Lacki follow Bob Weideman.

Corvair Institutional Knowledge

Al Unrath - one of our newest members and first-time Corvair owner - expressed concern about the potential loss of institutional knowledge in the Corvair community as our senior members age out.

It's a valid concern. But luckily, much of that institutional knowledge has already been preserved in books and video. Here's a run-down on where you can find it.

Dave "Motohead" Watson has dozens of Corvair repair videos on You-Tube. Don't be misled by his somewhat eccentric on-screen personality (his garage chicken, etc). Dave is actually a serious guy who really knows what he is doing. Here's a link to his YouTube catalog:

<https://www.youtube.com/@davemotohead1/videos>

But that's not all. There are plenty of reference materials out there too, but you have to know where to look! All of the original Corvair shop manuals and assembly manuals from Chevrolet are in reprint. You can still buy them from Clark's Corvair Parts and several other Corvair vendors.

The Clark's catalog - in print and online - has a "Technical Section" that has a bunch of pages with technical specifications and instructions for typical Corvair repair & replace jobs. It starts here:

<https://tinyurl.com/kxdsby5b>

Here is a link to a web page that provides a list of all the Corvair tech topics covered in the Clark's catalog, with links to

the individual articles:

<https://tinyurl.com/mr3z3a6h>

Clark's also sells hardcopy Corvair books - all kinds of them! Here is a link to the list of books they sell:

<https://tinyurl.com/34sfyj7y>

Among the books sold by Clark's, there is Bob Helt's booklet on rebuilding Corvair carburetors - although he passed away a few years ago, he was the Corvair carb guru.

There are four volumes of Corvair Tech Guides published by the Corvair Society of America at <http://www.corvair.org>.

So, as you can see, we have plenty of reference materials to choose from!

If you need anything in particular, I'm sure one of the guys in the club will let you borrow it. We're here for you!

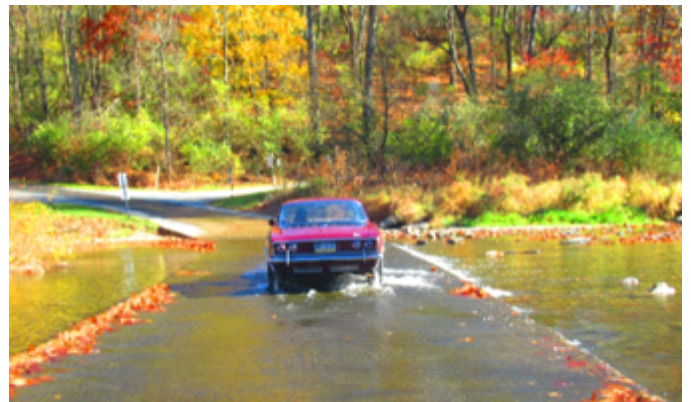
Update: Pete Frailey's V8 from Group Corvair Chapter of CORSA

Source: The March 2023 issue of The Fifth Wheel included an article on "The Silva V8s". The end of the article included a photo of a Silva V8 Corvair once owned by Pete Frailey. It can be identified easily because the rear taillights were replaced with a pair of units from a European Ford Capri. The photo's caption says, "whereabouts unknown".

(Continued on page 8)



Creek and Bison!



Well, the Pete Frailey V8 has been found! The following article is from the October 2024 issue of Group Corvair Comments, the official newsletter of the Group Corvair chapter of the Corvair Society of America. Editor Jim Simpson.

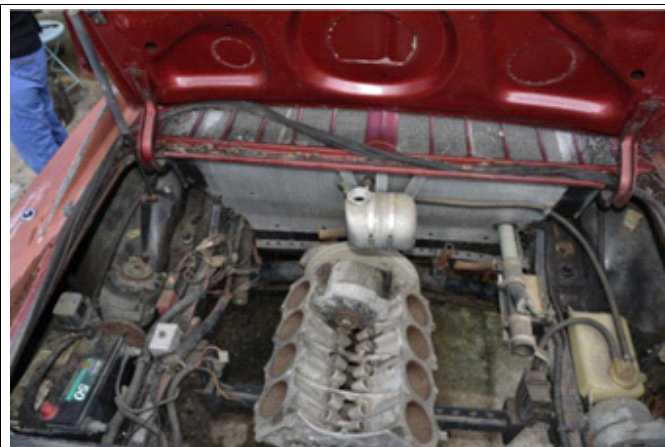
Pete Frailey and now Lee Hamilton's V8 Car

A handful of Group Corvair members visited Lee Hamilton recently to take a look at Pete Frailey's V8 conversion. For those of you who don't know about the car, it was one of a handful of V8 conversions done by Art Silva in the late 1960s.



The Freiley / Hamilton V8. Customized in its early years, it has taillights from a 1970s Ford Capri.

Art realized that the aluminum Oldsmobile/Buick 215 cu. in. V8 weighed a bit less than the Corvair engine and, if converted to reverse rotation, would fit in the Corvair engine bay (with a few "minor" modifications).



Bare aluminum Oldsmobile cylinder block is there just to hold things together. The engine is a derivative of the aluminum Buick V8 engines offered in Skylarks and Specials from 1961 to 1963.



Updated interior door panels with power window switches.

Pete Frailey loved to customize things and a custom V8 powered Corvair was right up his alley. Not long after the car was converted, but before really being finished, it was rear-ended and the engine damaged.

One thing led to another and Pete sold the car with it ending up in Lee Hamilton's possession. Lee repaired most of the damage and built a replacement engine, but then, once again, life intervened and progress has at least temporarily stalled.



Replacement engine, just about ready to install.

Several of us had the opportunity to visit Lee and take some pictures. Hopefully the car will be rebuilt and another of Art Silva's creations will be back on the road again.



LVCC Classified Ads



For Sale. 1965 “Corsa” convertible. A 1965 Monza, fully updated to Corsa specifications. 140-hp, 4-speed. Extensive performance modifications, including center-mount 4-bbl carburetor, Recaro seats, roll bar, electric fuel pump, and much more. Comfortable street cruiser, capable track car. Multi-time Fitch Award winner at Lime Rock. Owned by the LVCC member Ron Peles who passed away earlier this year.. Being offered on behalf of the late owner’s estate. Located in Stewartsville, just off I-78 near Phillipsburg, NJ. Asking price is \$16,000. Please contact Gloria Peles during regular business hours at yoglotwo@gmail.com



For Sale. 1965 Covair Corsa coupe. Known as “Fast Orange.” 140-hp, 4-speed, air conditioned. Just completed a trouble-free round trip to the Dayton convention. A ready-to-drive, ready-to-show car. If interested, send an email to Ray Coker during normal business hours at raycoker534@gmail.com

A&L Corvair Parts: New Parts: Brakes hoses, air filters, oil filters, tune-up parts, brake shoes, shocks, tail light lenses, gaskets, plugs, cables, choke pull offs, and much much more. Used Parts: Too many to list. Contact Larry Asheuer for pricing. Phone (267) 994-1569 or email: a-lcorvair@msn.com



Sky King Automotive Services: Now offering Corvair head work. Valve-seat grinding, Pro Flow grinding/ polishing, cleaning-cutting head gasket surfaces, de-flashing , thread repair. (I have measurement equip to confirm correct gasket surface depths). HV carb rebuilding. Top engine cover modifications for one gasket, no more leaks! Sound proofing, gas tank replacements, as well as rear and front axle bearing units. Late rears in stock! Bob King kcovair@ptd.net or text/call to 610-442-2873.

Jeff Marvill’s Suspension Services: I have over 45 years of suspension experience and I’m extremely experienced with the Corvair suspension systems as well as all other makes of vintage cars. I also have a computerized alignment system here so all repairs can remain in house. Now that I’m retired, I have more available time to repair these great cars. I can be reached at 267-424-4911 .Jeff Marvill, Perkasié, PA.

LVCC Calendar of Events



Friday Jan 17 to Sunday January 19, 2025 - Auto Mania in Allentown

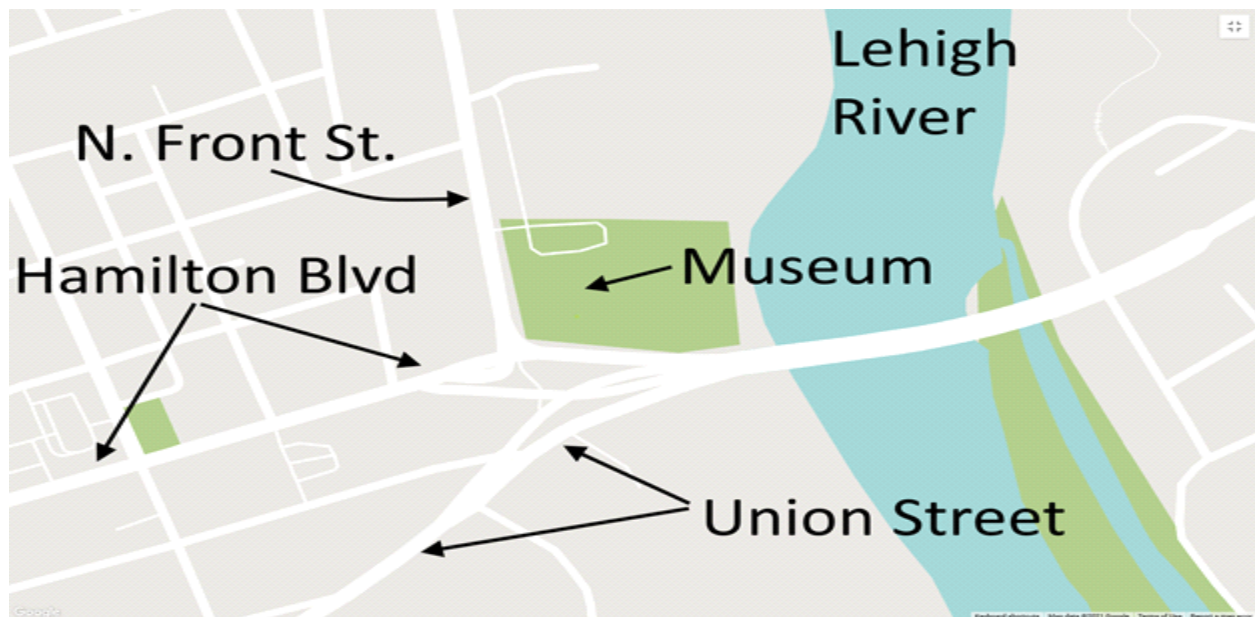
Location: Allentown Fairgrounds, 302 N 17th St., Allentown, PA 18104. Start: January 17, 2025 @ 12 PM. End: January 19, 2025 @ 3:PM. General admission: \$10 per person. Kids under 12 free. Since 1990, Auto Mania has been Pennsylvania’s largest indoor heated automotive flea market. Buy & sell new and untouched automotive merchandise. <https://tinyurl.com/2cpzrtyb> or (717) 243-7855 during normal business hours.

Next Meeting. We Meet Here!

Next Meeting Date: **Saturday November 16, 2024, 10 AM**

Place: America On Wheels Museum

5 North Front Street, Allentown, PA 18102



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Corvair Parts®

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400 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
(413) 625-9776
www.corvair.com



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LVCC's Instagram Account, [lehigh_valley_corvair_club](https://www.instagram.com/lehigh_valley_corvair_club), is maintained for us by Ryan Cengeri, halfmile@gmail.com
Contact Ryan to have your favorite Corvair photos posted on Instagram!